REMARKS

Claims 1, 2, 4-9, 14, 16-18 and 20-24 are currently pending in the present application, of which claims 1, 6, and 14 are independent. The Applicants gratefully acknowledge that claims 1, 2, 4, 5, 8, 14, 16-18, 20-22, and 24 have been allowed. In the present response, claims 1, 2, 4, 5, 8, and 22 have been cancelled. Claim 6 has been amended to incorporate the limitations from allowable claim 8. Accordingly, the Applicants respectfully submit that the pending claims are now in condition for allowance.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that all claims of the present application are in condition for allowance. Reconsideration and allowance of all pending claims at an early date is respectfully requested.

Applicants believe that no fees are due in accordance with this Amendment beyond those included herewith. Should any additional fees be due, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any deficiencies or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account 502317.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: October 18, 2006

Joseph K. Liu, Esq.
Registration No. 51,257
Attorney of Record
Customer No. 33357